PUBLIC BUILDING AT MAYFIELD, KY.

January 11, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HICKS, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 2718.]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2718) for the erection of a public building at Mayfield, Ky., having considered the same, respectfully report:

Mayfield is situated on the line of the Illinois Central Railroad, and has in addition to mail facilities nine daily mails from star-route lines running into said city. Is a progressive and growing city with large manufacturing interests.

It is the geographical and business center of territory extending from the Tennessee River to the State line on the Mississippi River, about 100 miles, and from the Tennessee State line to the Ohio River, a distance of 75 miles, and there is no Federal building of any description in said territory.

The population of Mayfield is 6,000, with a large contiguous territory depending on it for mail facilities. Its many corporations, which refuse to submit to litigation in the State courts, invariably have the venue changed to the Federal courts, thus compelling litigants and witnesses to travel long distances at great and unavoidable cost, because there is no building in said city large enough to furnish post-office or court facilities to the population.

The committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendments:

Strike out all of lines 13, 14, and 15, on page 1.

On page 3, line 13, strike out the word "herein" and insert the word "when."

In line 1, page 4, strike out the words "by this act."